

“Being Renewed in God”
Genesis 17

“We can know facts about God or we can enter into a personal relationship with God and even develop a deep sense of intimacy with him.” A.W. Tozer

Seven passion killers:

1. An unbalanced schedule.

Psalms 127:2 “It is senseless for you to work so hard from early morning until late at night, fearing that you’re going to starve to death; for God wants His loved ones to get their proper rest.”

Principle: Bible study without ministry is extremely dangerous.

James 2:17 “To him who knoweth to do good and doeth it not it is sin.”

2. An unused talent.

1 Peter 4:10 “Each of you has been blessed with one of God’s many wonderful gifts to be used in the service of others. So use your gifts well.”

1 Corinthians 7:17 “Each one should live his life with the gifts that the Lord has given him.”

3. An unconfessed sin.

Psalms 38:4,6 “My guilt has overwhelmed me like a burden too heavy to bear...I am bowed down and I am brought low.”

4. An unresolved conflict.

Job 5:2 “Resentment destroys the fool and jealousy kills the simple.”

Job 18:4 “You are only hurting yourself with your anger.”

5. An unsupported lifestyle.

Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10 “Two are better than one...because if one falls down his friend can help him up. But pity the man who falls and has no one to help him up!”

Hebrews 10:24, 25 “Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds. Let’s not give up meeting together and let us encourage one another.”

6. An unclear purpose.

Isaiah 49:4 “I’ve labored to no purpose and I’ve spent my strength in vain and for nothing.”

7. An undernourished spirit.

Psalms 63:1 “You, God, are my God, earnestly I seek you; I thirst for you, my whole being longs for you, in a dry and parched land where there is no water.”

Romans 12:11 “Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor.”

Eight steps to a renewed faith in God:

1. Receive a fresh revelation from God.

Matthew 19:26 "With men this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."

2. Make a commitment to walk before God and be blameless.

Ephesians 5:15 "See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise."

Galatians 5:16 "I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh."

3. Humble yourself before God and listen to Him.

1 Peter 5:5,6 "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble. Humble yourselves, therefore, under God's mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time."

4. Hear and believe God's covenant promises.

5. Keep the covenant meaning in your mind.

6. Don't despise the means of the promise.

Principle: God wants to renew you in the way he wants to renew you, not in the way you think he wants to renew you.

7. Accept the will and purpose of God.

8. Make a public decision to obey God's instruction in his Word.

Galatians 5:6 "For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision has any value. The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love."

Galatians 6:15 "Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is a new creation."

Deuteronomy 10:16 "Circumcise your hearts, therefore, and do not be stiff-necked any longer."

Deuteronomy 30:6 "The Lord your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and all your soul, and live."

Jeremiah 4:4 "Circumcise yourselves to the Lord, circumcise your hearts."

Romans 2:25-29 "Circumcision has value if you observe the law, but if you break the law, you have become as though you had not been circumcised. If those who are not circumcised keep the law's requirements, will they not be regarded as though they were circumcised? The one who is not circumcised physically and yet obeys the law will condemn you who, even though you have the written code and circumcision, are a lawbreaker. A man is not a Jew if he is only one outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. No, a man is a Jew if he is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code."

Exodus 31:14 "You must worship only the Lord, for He is a God who is passionate about His relationship with you."

"Father, fan the flames of hunger. May we never be the same. Set our hearts on fire."